Abstract of the Disclosure

A method detects an unusual event in a video. Motion vectors are extracted from each frame in a video acquired by a camera of a scene. Zero run-length parameters are determined for each frame from the motion vectors. The zero run-length parameters are summed over predetermined time intervals of the video, and a distance is determined between the sum of the zero run-lengths of a current time interval and the sum of the zero run-lengths of a previous time interval. Then, the unusual event is detected if the distance is greater than a predetermined threshold.